



MINUTES OF THE JOINT WORK SESSION
BETWEEN THE
LEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AND
THE LEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MARCH 24, 2008

The joint work session between the Lee County Board of Commissioners and the Lee County Board of Education, convened at 5:00 p.m. in the Gordon Wicker Conference Room, Lee County Government Center, 106 Hillcrest Drive, Sanford, North Carolina, on said date. Commissioners present were Robert H. Brown, Nathan E. Paschal, John T. Quiggle, Robert T. Reives, and Linda A. Shook. Commissioner James C. Kelly was absent and Commissioner Jerry M. Lemmond joined the meeting at approximately 5:15 p.m.

Chairman Brown presided and called the meeting to order.

Chairman Brown delivered the invocation and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Chairman Brown stated that only the two Boards would participate in discussion, no public comments would be allowed, and members from the Economic Development Corporation Board and Central Carolina Community College had been invited.

Board of Education members Ms. Ellen Mangum and Dr. Lynn Smith presented seven (7) goals that supported program development, recognized student diversity, encouraged growth in student achievement, and inspired professional growth activities for teachers, staff, and administrators.

County Manager John Crumpton discussed County budgets that have been submitted for FY 2008-09. Mr. Crumpton stated he had asked each of the departments to make cuts in their budgets this year because Commissioners did not want to raise property taxes. It was noted that eighteen (18) of the twenty-four (24) departments have submitted budgets with no additional increases. Without the ¼-cent sales tax, no further spending, including most all of the capital expenditures will make the budget. An estimated \$95 million in capital requests have been asked for over the next five (5) years between the schools and community college. Mr. Crumpton stated, "Without the sales tax, we can't do anything and with the sales tax we can only make a dent in what is needed."

The Board of Education asked the Commissioners to dedicate revenues generated from the ¼-cent sales tax, if approved in May, for renovation projects at Lee County High School, and that wording be changed on a pamphlet that has been prepared by County staff, to state the revenue would be used specifically for renovations at Lee County High School. Commissioners stated in a resolution passed earlier in the year that the revenue would be used for capital projects

for the school district and community college but did not single out any specific projects. The Commissioners did not state they would dedicate revenues generated to the renovation project at Lee County High School.

After some discussion, it was agreed to form a committee that will be made up of two Commissioners, two members from the School Board and two members each from Central Carolina Community College Board of Trustees and Lee County Economic Development Corporation. The committee will work with the *Friends of Lee County High School*, a non-profit group of concerned parents, to promote the ¼-cent sales tax that will be on the May 6th referendum. If the sales tax passes, the County could see additional revenue of \$1.5 million annually that would help support approximately \$36 million in requested capital projects.

With no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Reives moved to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Brown, Lemmond, Paschal, Quiggle, Shook, and Reives

Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously and the meeting adjourned in keeping with the motion.

ATTEST:

Robert H. Brown, Chairman
Lee County Board of Commissioners

Gaynell M. Lee, Clerk